

S/N: 10/801,095

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Meller, Dieter

Examiner: Gilbert Y. Lee

Serial No.: 10/801,095

Group Art Unit: 3673 Conf. No.: 9266

Filed: March 15, 2004

Docket: LIP039

Title: Sealing Ring and Sealing Ring Arrangement

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner For Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION
AND RESPONSE TO NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT**

Sir:

A Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment was mailed on March 24, 2009 citing that the amendment filed on January 12, 2009 was non-responsive on the basis that the amendment failed to distinguish the new claim (28) over the cited art. Applicants were given until April 24, 2009 to respond. This amendment and RCE and response to the notice of non-compliant amendment is being filed prior to April 24, 2009 and supplies the requested correction.

Applicants do note that at page 14 of the amendment filed January 12, 2009, it was pointed out that new claim 28 had been added which included the limitations that had been added to claims 25-27, whose patentability was discussed. However, as requested, new claim 28 is discussed in more detail herein.

Accordingly, this paper is again in response to the Final Official Action in this case mailed July 10, 2008 and includes a Request For Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114. A Petition for a three (3) month extension of time to respond to the Notice has already been filed along with payment of \$555.00 for the three (3) month extension fee to extend the term for response from October 10, 2008 to January 10, 2009, along with payment for the Request for Continued Examination. Accordingly, no further fees are believed due at this time. Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2121 for any necessary additional fees.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the subject application and respectfully solicit allowance of the subject application in view of the following:

- **Amendments to the Claims**, beginning on Page 3 of this paper; and
- **Remarks**, beginning on Page 15 of this paper.

Re-examination and reconsideration are requested.